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PRESS INQUIRIES

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HAWAI'I CONTEMPORARY ANNOUNCES ARTXCHANGE FUNDRAISER

artXchange is a multi-dimensional fundraiser that includes an art auction, public viewing and programming, a contemporary art dining experience and student exhibition

HONOLULU (March 20, 2023) — Hawai'i Contemporary, presenter of Hawai'i Triennial (the state's largest, periodic, international exhibition of contemporary art), announced **artXchange**, a multi-dimensional fundraiser to benefit the visual arts organization. Featuring contemporary art from Hawai'i, the Pacific, and beyond, **artXchange** comprises an online art auction, a ticketed benefit experience that pairs art with food on May 20, and a student exhibition from May 21–28, 2023.

"We're thrilled to announce the organization's first-ever public fundraiser," said Rosina Potter, executive director of Hawai'i Contemporary. "**artXchange** will not only generate crucial support for Hawai'i Contemporary, but also shine a light on local and Pacific talent. It's a multi-faceted event that will connect the public to a wonderful selection of exciting contemporary artists."

The online art auction will feature art experiences and nearly 50 artworks by notable artists from Hawai'i, the Pacific, and beyond, including Choi Jeong Hwa, Michael Joo, John Koga, Abigail Romanchak, Masami Teraoka, and Momoyo Torimitsu. Artists participating in **artXchange** are alumni of Hawai'i Contemporary's past exhibitions (Honolulu Biennial and Hawai'i Triennial) and/or those who support the organization's mission to connect Hawai'i and the Pacific through contemporary art. All sales from the art auction will benefit Hawai'i Contemporary *and* the respective artists. The art auction opens online on May 12 and runs through May 28, 2023. Artworks in the auction will also be exhibited to the public (in person), May 21–28, 2023, at Royal Hawaiian Center in Waikiki.

The event on May 20 pairs art activations and performances with an immersive, chef-prepared dining experience. The ticketed benefit experience offers attendees a first look at artwork in the art auction and the Young Contemporaries student exhibition.

SELECT PARTICIPATING ARTISTS (additional artists to be announced)

Choi Jeong Hwa | b. 1961, Seoul; lives and works in Seoul | HB17

Tom Haar | b. 1941, Tokyo; lives and works in Honolulu

Michael Joo | b. 1966, Ithaca, New York; lives and works in New York | HT22

John Koga | b. 1964, Honolulu; lives and works in Waimea, Hawai'i

Abigail Romanchak | b. 1976, Wailuku; lives and works in Kula, Hawai'i

Kamran Samimi | b. 1984, Laupāhoehoe, Hawai'i; lives and works in Honolulu

Masami Teraoka | b. 1936, Onomichi, Japan; lives and works in Waimanalo, Hawai'i

Momoyo Torimitsu | b. 1967, Tokyo; lives and works in New York | HT22

Livien Yin | b. 1999, Cambridge, Mass.; lives and works in New York

Shingo Yamazaki | b. 1985, Honolulu; lives and works in Los Angeles

artXchange
20–28 May 2023
Royal Hawaiian Center
2201 Kalākaua Ave • C302
Waikīkī

hawaiiicontemporary.org/artxchange

artXchange is presented by Hawai'i Contemporary in partnership with Royal Hawaiian Center, with in-kind support from Kaimana Beach Hotel and Hawaiian Airlines.

Art Auction | May 12–28, 2023

Presenting a selection of works by notable visual artists from Hawai'i, the Pacific, and beyond, who support Hawai'i Contemporary and our mission. More than 50 artworks will be available for sale online. Register online: bit.ly/artxchange-auction.

Benefit Experience | May 20, 2023

A ticketed, in-person event featuring an immersive dining and contemporary art experience. Proceeds benefit Hawai'i Contemporary. Reserve tickets online: bit.ly/artxchange-benefit.

Public Viewing + Public Programs | May 21–28, 2023

A weeklong show of all of the artworks in the online auction, along with a suite of complementary public programs. Both are free to the public.

Young Contemporaries | May 21–28, 2023

An exhibition of work by junior and senior high school students for sale, as well as a professional development program for Hawai'i's young artists.

Closing Celebration | May 27, 2023 | 6pm–8pm

A last-chance bidding opportunity and look at **artXchange**, including auctioned artworks and the Young Contemporaries student exhibition. Gather with artists and enjoy light refreshments kindly provided by Noi Thai Cuisine.

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EVENT SNAPSHOT

FUNDRAISER NAME

artXchange

TO BENEFIT

Hawai'i Contemporary

ONLINE ART AUCTION

12–28 May 2023

TICKETED BENEFIT EXPERIENCE

20 May 2023

PUBLIC VIEWING + PROGRAMS

21–28 May 2023

YOUNG CONTEMPORARIES

21–28 May 2023

CLOSING CELEBRATION

27 May 2023

About Hawai'i Contemporary

Inspired by the unique histories of Hawai'i, a gathering place for diverse peoples and cultures, Hawai'i Contemporary connects with communities from across our islands and across regions united by the Pacific Ocean. As a collaborative art partner, we cultivate cultural alliances to organize our signature initiatives, including Hawai'i Triennial, the state's largest periodic exhibition of contemporary art from Hawai'i and around the world, which is held every three years. The multi-site Triennial is complemented by year-round public and education programs and preceded by an international Art Summit, featuring artists, curators, and cultural thinkers. A not-for-profit arts organization, Hawai'i Contemporary (formerly known as Honolulu Biennial Foundation) continues to build on the success of its past art exhibitions — Honolulu Biennial in 2017 and 2019, and Hawai'i Triennial 2022 — to contribute to and grow a vibrant arts ecosystem, creating an accessible gateway for contemporary art in Hawai'i nei. // hawaiiicontemporary.org // [@hawaiiicontemporary](https://www.instagram.com/hawaiiicontemporary)

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

This press release contains words in 'ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language), one of two official languages of the State of Hawai'i. 'Ōlelo Hawai'i utilizes two diacritical marks: a kahakō (macron) and an 'okina (glottal stop). Please note that an 'okina — and not an apostrophe — is used in the word Hawai'i.

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